

SEAFORTH PAC MEETING

May 16, 2012

Executive in Attendance: MaryAnn Giardini, Shannon Derksen, Rhylin Bailie, Zena Kwan, Siva Ramesh, Rema Sanghera, Sophie Cong, Cheryl Tong

Others in Attendance: Wendell Hiltz (principal), Pablo Su, Gail Su, Birdie Chan, Janet Lee, Ann Einstein, Lynne Vidler

Meeting started 7:06 pm

PAC BUSINESS - Rhylin Bailie

- Approval of April's minutes: MaryAnn firsts, Siva seconds

Seaforth Spirit Day:

- Very successful thanks to many people
- Budget: about 300 dollars over. Plan is to ask for more for next year
- Suggestion for improvement: put more emphasis on the speaker welcome and goodbye process. Pablo and Gail noted that all speakers received a letter welcoming them to Seaforth, there was a thank you , chocolates, and a letter/email from Gail. The idea is to thank them and encourage them to come back next year.
- Question: what about kids that are put in the wrong session or request a last minute change: answer: yes the committee tried to accommodate all requests on the day. This allowance was not advertised to prevent this in the future. It's sometimes hard to move kids around as many sessions are very full. And one change has to result in changes in several places.

Teacher/PAC co-ordination of 2012/2013 events

- Questions were posed to teachers re: events in 2012/2013 and streamlining these events (Spirit Day etc.). They have given their feedback and support all the events and a reduced kindness "month".
- Feedback from teachers: planning for 2012/2013: Jenny took the notes. Need to talk to Jenny – get a number per student/per class. Take this to the AGM and figure how much we will give them – budget line item. Wish list – Wendell has it. There is no dollar figure. Half didn't submit dollar figure. \$2500 dollars not spent this year yet – Front Row Sound System – was called technology. School is going to purchase ASAP.

Sports Day

- How will it be different this year due to teacher's job action residual? No cheers technically, there is a scaled down version of this. The choir is

working on sports day songs. There aren't pom poms this year. Most of the key elements are in place, house meetings are occurring etc.

Carnival

- Two weeks away
- \$5190 dollars in pre-sales, 100 dollar increase this year
- Ready to go
- Next week: busy with last minute stuff. If you haven't purchased your passport by this Friday, won't get lanyard. Must buy on day of if don't buy by this Friday.
- Some people couldn't open the PDF, there may be a problem with the LISTSERV, we will email parents to let them know that the pdf with forms on the website. Last two emails Rhylin sent out, parents can't open.
ACTION ITEM: Rhylin to send this email.
- Volunteers: Rhylin also to put one last request out for more volunteers
- Advertising: Mary Holmes putting up big posters around the neighborhood. Community posters sent out to principals and community centres and Mary Ann sent out to DPAC chairs. No ad in Burnaby Now this year.

CPF Update – Siva Ramesh

- Grade 7 congratulations for graduating: grade 7 students will receive special recognition, Siva is creating these
- What percentage of elementary students goes on to high school French immersion: more than 50% of the students do.
- French speaking contest does occur. No prizes from school for participation. It would be a nice thing to do. Participating is part of the curriculum.

DPAC Update – MaryAnn Giardini

- Presentation was made about how education assistants are used in the district
- During this presentation they discussed a pyramid of how children in the school fall into different categories and how each type uses ed assistants.
- Will be uploaded to the DPAC website
- Discussion about grade 7 issues: District not in a position to support parents organizing events for children – liability issue

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT – Wendell Hiltz

- Teachers resource Wish list: Wendell giving to Rhylin
- Ministry link to FSA (not a link) – has to be individual attachment for each year. Can go out at any time. Wendell is collecting from data company that works with Ministry. Question: Can you not put all years in one document. Data Company said no. Rhylin can collate them and create one PDF. People can do comparisons themselves.

- Re: Satisfaction survey – PDF will be put out as attachment with note about it. Last four years shown.
- Carnival flyer was sent out to principals. Asked to post and share with parent/PAC community.
- Thanks from all staff for luncheon today. Thanks to MaryAnn for organizing.
- Teachers are organizing volunteer tea. May 31st notice went out already.
- Update on residual job action issues: labour relations board: employer took an issue to LRB: what did they take? They were trying to get LRB to rule that teachers had the right to freely choose whether they do extra curricular activities. There was talk of peer pressure to get teachers NOT to do the extra curricular activities that if they did they might get fined. This is not true.
- Quebec trip and grade 7 camp trip are going ahead. There have been parents that stepped forward. Meeting last night re grade 7 grad: 49 of the grade 7 parents are coming and participating. Those numbers are great. Because these are not school sanctioned trips (no school district personnel on trip) that means District can't provide insurance.
- Grade 7 graduations: putting numbers together for counsellors and insurance. Estimated cost is 15,000 dollars. It is a lot more than if it was school sanctioned. If we have 50 students: 300 dollars each. The cost is usually 160 dollars, almost double the cost this year. Counsellors are trained, licensed, and have first aid. Having counsellor's means that there is less possibility for conflict between children and parents. No parent volunteers are going to camp.
- There is a request for \$1500 to \$2000 extra money towards grade 7 camp. Discussion about whether Grade 7 French Trip also needs money. Quebec trip - has paid for everything. Jump Street is the company involved: covers the time from when they land in Quebec to the time they come back to the airport so no extra insurance required.
- There is extra money in the PAC account from places where the school didn't spend. Jingle bell walk, teacher subsidies, grounds improvements, guest performances – these are the things that didn't use money making extra money in our account.
- Rishma motions to donate the 2500 dollars to grade 7 camp: Siva seconds. All in favour. Motion carried. With the requested subsidy from PAC it will be about \$210 dollars per child to attend camp.
- Lynn is the parent organizing grade 7 camp. Insurance in Lynne's name. **ACTION ITEM (rema/sohpie) writes them a cheque.** Gaming account to be used. They must submit an invoice.
- Year books are free this year; grad committee is on a very tight budget. There will be no money for a gift from the grad class to the school this year.

Re-Emergency committee: no inventory, no drill. We are waiting for parents to get back to Wendell. The goal is an inventory.

Re- Donations:

- Changing our system so that the PAC funds classrooms out of PAC budget/fundraising, and donations (donation drive at the beginning of the year) go toward capital expenditure instead. What if we said we are replacing the computer lab? – Can committee price this out? Computer lab is a good idea for the capital expenditure.
- Our plan is to make PC lab our capital expenditure. Sophie: the donations raised in 2012/ 2013 will probably go to PC's purchased for the next year. Donations have to go to school in order to get tax receipt.
- Suggestion: to help minimize costing for District – IT – can we reduce the costs? Can we get a quote and decide if we can minimize this cost?

Technical committee UPDATE

They will be meeting Monday 28th. Ken will have pricing by AGM. Can committee price out the cost of replacing computers in the lab? Grade 7's uses the computer lab and so do primary. Comment: computers would have to be bought through District. Purchasing through District we will be paying maintenance fee, etc. Question: how long would it take to get computers into the school? Not sure, there have been problems getting computers since Tsunami in Japan apparently. iPads is one idea that was brought up as well; the group seems to favour this idea.

There was a question about the PACs \$40,000: how long have we carried this? Answer: in 2011/2012: came into with \$20,000. Parents have concern about the fact that money is not spent yet. There are very good reasons why the money is not spent yet: we need plan on what to spend it on. Another reason for delay in spending is due to District inventory/upgrade that kept getting pushed forward. Wanted to have a proper inventory done so we weren't just "spending the money to spend it." Want to know what we're spending it on and why and have a long-term plan. Assumption is that we'll spend it on computer upgrades but still waiting for inventory from District and recommendations from technical committee before we make any decisions.

HOT LUNCH: MyTiffin update: Meishan

- Regular hot lunch noticed no reduction in number of orders. Cathy has found someone to take her place, will mentor her next year for succession planning. Cathy's last year is next year, Rishma's in 2013/2014. Rishma will bring in an understudy the following year.
- Munchalunch feedback is good. Regular hot lunch is looking into using the online ordering system. Give menu to Barbara. Can have as many items as you want. Will regular hot lunch use cheques and online ordering? 199 kids ordering – overall. For one hot lunch – 154 kids. We have ~\$300 profit average per lunch. Some kids will only order 1 thing. Will try to have all online ordering. October to December: 5 hot lunches – all online. Jan to June. See what happens. Have hot lunches all on Tuesday, one per week

- reduce confusion and hopefully reduce the number of kids who show up without lunch. Special interest groups: will want some lunches.
- \$1700 for 6 lunches. MyTiffin. 15 days, every second week, minus December and June. Track spring break factor in. Special interest did 8 lunches. Don't start in Sept/ Grad ones are on Friday. 31 lunches total. All on same day – will be helpful. Question: more choices for Munchalunch – yes. Can we order just 1 thing - no we cannot. Can we be flexible on this? Maybe, the committee will discuss. Too much food is one negative feedback. Desserts too monotonous –additional choice desired. Different from reg. hot lunch is desired.
- Outcome: need to have hot lunch meeting to discuss issues of: will regular hot lunch use online? Will MyTiffin offer single items? Will we offer fewer special interest lunches? Ensuring the two programs don't overlap. Rishma to talk to Cathy about the online ordering. Is there risk in terms of giving too many lunches to special interest or not: some don't order special interest lunches. Feedback from teachers needed on the hot lunch? Set meeting? Who are special interest group leaders? How much of a reduction in profit it will be if we add extra MyTiffin lunch? **Rhylin to put out email re: set meeting ACTION ITEM.**
- Aside: Hot lunch –2 separate budget lines needed.

SAFE SCHOOL COMMITTEE/teacher feedback – MaryAnn Giardini

- We received mixed feedback regarding Kindness Month from the teachers – some said too much, others said it was awesome. Teachers will provide feedback in an anonymous format. We will need teacher support to go ahead.
- Kids enjoyed – want the kids to think big, don't let it die to strengthen the message.
- Hoping to bring in 3 speakers: 1) Respect Ed – geared towards intermediate students 2) Saleema Noon – girl empowerment – bullying – targeting grade 6 and 7 girls. 3) Primary kids speaker – entertainment style – maple ridge speaker – has done a few schools.
- Don't know how the program for 2012/2013 will look yet, do status quo budget this year.
- Feedback from teachers coming before June AGM.

OTHER BUSINESS:

PAC EXEC 2012/2013 – June AGM – voting will occur. **Summaries of each position to be put into the next newsletter – ACTION ITEM for Rhylin.**

Welcome week in September

- Topics to cover include: activities we do, who we are, volunteer opportunities.

- One possible format: each committee has their own table to advertise what they do and solicit feedback.
- Succession needed. Jen is the nominating committee. Rhylin willing to stay on.

Upcoming events:

- May 24th, walk to school day.
- Kindergarten orientation – Cheryl Tong is doing.

Miscellaneous Budget issues: Need to determine how to allocate profits from 2012 Carnival. Spirit day budget will be bumped up to \$1500. Knocked some stuff down because never use it. And set aside money for Saleema Noon. Need to make 2 separate line items for 2 hot lunch programs.

NEXT MEETING JUNE 13, 2012 – AGM – important voting to occur, all parents encouraged to attend.

Meeting adjourned 9:16 pm